

NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

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SBA and National Association of Hispanic Publications Create Partnership to Assist Hispanic Publishers and Small Businesses

WASHINGTON – The Small Business Administration and the National Association of Hispanic Publications have signed a strategic alliance memorandum stating their commitment to work together to provide information and resources to Hispanic publishers and small business owners across the nation. The agreement was signed by SBA Administrator Hector Barreto and NAHP President Hernan Guaração.

Under this new partnership, the SBA and the NAHP will collaborate to increase awareness about SBA programs and services such as access to capital, technical assistance and federal procurement opportunities. In an effort to better disseminate this information, the SBA and NAHP intend to conduct workshops and seminars at the local level.

"I am very pleased to have this agreement in place with the NAHP and we look forward to working with the association in better informing their members and small businesses across the country," said Administrator Barreto. "The NAHP and its member publications perform an important function for the Hispanic and Spanish speaking community. Our goal is that through this joint effort, this community can continue to grow, flourish and be a contributor to the vitality and dynamism of our nation."

This agreement with a Spanish language media organization continues efforts started earlier this year by the SBA. In March, the agency made available ready-to-print articles in Spanish on small business topics to Spanish language publications via the SBA website. More information can be found at www.negocios.gov.

The strategic alliance memorandum will remain in effect through Dec. 31, 2004.

For more information about SBA's programs for small businesses, call the SBA Answer Desk at 1-800 UASK SBA or TDD 704-344-6640 or visit the SBA's extensive Web site at www.sba.gov. The SBA, in co-sponsorship with Staples, has introduced an online newsletter SBA Solutions. For a free subscription, go to http://web.sba.gov/list and select New SBA Solutions Newsletter.